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FOREIGN ANIMAL
DISEASES REPORT



MARCH-APRIL
1973

REGULMENT SECTION
REPT SERIAL RECORDS

EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE
ACTIVITIES REPORT



During the period February 1, to March 22, 1973, exotic Newcastle disease was diagnosed in 21 flocks comprised of slightly more than 422,000 birds. Two hundred and forty flocks consisting of slightly more than 24,000 birds were found to be exposed. The exposed and infected flocks were mainly in the Corona, Hemet, Homeland, Moreno, Norco, Riverside, and Sunnymead areas of Riverside County and the Upland and Highland areas of San Bernardino County.

During the first week in March, a turkey flock consisting of about 27,000 birds and one small backyard flock in the Hemet area of Riverside County were diagnosed positive. The source of this infection is believed to have been from the

movement of birds from the Norco area of Riverside County. A pullet flock near Upland, California, in San Bernardino County was also diagnosed positive. This flock was moved from Sunnymead and was later determined to have been exposed to infection at the time of the movement.

A positive case of exotic Newcastle disease was not diagnosed between March 6 and March 28, 1973. As of March 22, 1973, exactly 1,262 flocks comprised of slightly more than 11,000,000 birds in southern California had been determined to be infected or exposed since March 14, 1972, the date when the national emergency was declared. These birds were appraised at just under \$21 million. As of March 22, 1973, over 112,800,000 individual bird vaccinations had been performed under program supervision. Over 16,400,000 birds had been vaccinated during the fourth round of vaccination.

In the first 46 days in 1973, it was necessary to depopulate 93 premises with a total of 78,503 birds in the Norco vicinity alone. Depopulation of individual flocks had not stopped the spread of exotic Newcastle disease in Norco, so it was determined to be a community-wide problem. Unconfined poultry appear to have been largely responsible for the number of cases of exotic Newcastle disease found in the Norco community in Riverside County. As a result, the Norco area was declared a high-risk area by the State-Federal Newcastle Disease Task Force in Riverside, California.

All birds which by February 18, 1973, were not confined within a structure closed on all sides and at the top so that birds could not escape were considered exposed and were subsequently depopulated. All chickens, turkeys, guinea hens, peacocks, ducks, geese, and other fowl in Norco were considered potentially exposed to exotic Newcastle disease and were quickly evaluated in an effort to eradicate the disease in that area. Closely confined flocks were evaluated by using sentinel birds. As a result of this action, the spread of the disease in the Norco area was stopped and the pockets of disease were eliminated.

During the first week of March, all of the sentinels had been placed according to schedule and the Epidemiological Necropsy Surveillance Program became the main tool in determining infection in commercial poultry flocks. Currently, 92 percent of the commercial flocks in an area consisting of Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, and San Diego Counties are under the Epidemiological Necropsy Surveillance Program.

On March 6 and 7, 1973, a Work Conference was held at Riverside, California. This meeting was opened to the public, and the current status of the exotic Newcastle disease program was discussed. The participants were also told that a determination had been made that the virus of exotic Newcastle disease could survive in tap water at room temperature for a period of 17 days and that mice could become and remain transitory carriers of the disease for as long as 11 days after exposure. Work performed by the Atomic Energy Commission scientists revealed that mice would travel up to 5 miles from premises where their food supply had been removed. As a result of these findings, a mouse control program was instituted on all infected and exposed premises. It was also announced that in the future, depopulation, as well as cleaning and disinfecting of exposed and infected premises would be performed by USDA employees. This will provide for better control of individuals who perform these tasks and will ensure that they are utilized only for depopulation, cleaning and disinfecting until they become safe for other assignments. It was also decided that the task force would initiate an Epidemiological Disease Prevention Program in southern California. This program involves close cooperation of the task force members with the industry to prevent spread of the disease.

No further cases of exotic Newcastle disease had been confirmed as of March 22, 1973, in the Los Ebanos area of Hidalgo County, Texas. Intensive surveillance and investigations indicate the disease had not spread. All of the sentinel birds have been bled and tested for Newcastle disease by the use of hemagglutination inhibition tests. These tests were negative.

REGULATION CHANGES AND QUARANTINE ACTIONS ... On March 1, 1973, the area under quarantine in southern California was reduced from 690 to 530 square miles. This reduction was brought about when an area of approximately 160 square miles under quarantine in Ventura county was determined to be free of infection.

The following is an excerpt from a press release dated March 2, 1973, from Riverside, California, which announces a change in quarantine compliance procedures:

"Motorists on southern California highways will no longer see "poultry quarantine" check points alongside truck weighing stations, reports Dr. E. C. Sharman, Director of the State-Federal Exotic Newcastle Disease Task Force headquartered here.

The highway check points have been phased out in the continuing battle to eradicate the virus disease that is usually fatal to chickens but harmless to consumers of poultry meat and eggs. Exotic Newcastle disease inspectors will work directly with the industry on enforcement of quarantine regulations. This will include visits to poultry premises, processing plants, feed dealers, truck terminals, and other places affected by quarantine restrictions. Requirements for cleaning and disinfecting, obtaining permits, and inspection are still in effect.

Highway check points were established soon after formation of the State-Federal Exotic Newcastle Disease Task Force on March 14, 1972."

USDA ADJUSTS PERSONAL PET BIRD IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) took action to reduce a problem encountered by travelers bringing personally-owned pet birds into the United States.

In August, USDA placed a temporary ban on commercial importation of pet birds because of outbreaks of exotic Newcastle disease. The ban exempted personally-owned birds if the owner could provide a notarized ownership statement.

Because of the difficulty of obtaining overseas notarization of such a statement, USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has provided an alternative: Owners may now have the health statement witnessed by an APHIS inspector at a U.S. port-of-entry.

The traveler must attest to having the pet birds in his possession for at least 90 days. He must also state that they have not been in contact with other birds during that period. The APHIS veterinarian at the port-of-entry must inspect the birds and if they meet other import requirements, including those of the U.S. Public Health Service, the birds are eligible for importation. Travelers are limited to importation of two birds. Birds must be kept in isolation for 30 days after entry and available for further APHIS examination if necessary.

The regulation change became effective Feb. 15, upon publication in the Federal Register.

SWINE VESICULAR DISEASE IN ENGLAND

A recent notice on the swine vesicular disease (SVD) situation in England, dated February 26, 1973, indicated that five additional outbreaks of SVD had been confirmed. Four of these outbreaks were in Yorkshire: one on February 23 at Barnsley; two on February 24, at Wilsden, Bradford, and at Stainforth, Doncaster; and one on February 25 at Shirrell Heath, Southampton, Hampshire.

As a result of these outbreaks new "Infected Areas" have been established around Barnsley and Bradford, and the existing Infected Area around Fareham, Hampshire, has been extended.

In addition, from midnight of Friday, February 23, the whole of England and Wales was declared a Controlled Area for swine vesicular disease.

In each of the cases confirmed in Yorkshire during the weekend, waste food had been fed to the pigs. There is therefore a strong possibility that the source of infection is waste food. The authorities again reminded all pig farmers of the Diseases of Animals Waste Food Order 1957, which requires that all waste food, including bakers' waste containing meat products such as meat pies, sausages, etc., must be boiled for at least one hour before it is fed to animals, and that anyone with more than four weaned pigs must have a license from the local authority for the boiling plants used. Farmers who do not observe this Order may be liable to a fine of up to 400 British pounds (approximately \$940.00). These regulations must be observed by everyone using waste food as an animal feed for the present outbreak of swine vesicular disease to be brought under control.

It is also evident from this notice that the Ministry is particularly concerned about the standard of disinfection of livestock transport. It is now required that livestock trucks be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with a disinfectant approved by the Ministry after each consignment of animals has been unloaded. This is because the virus remains active in pig feces for a considerable time, and unless a truck is thoroughly disinfected, it can remain infective for a number of days.

In the new outbreaks 475 pigs were involved at Barnsley; 500 at Wilsden, Bradford; 444 at Stainforth, Doncaster; 9 at Kiveton Park, near Sheffield; and 277 at Shirrell Heath, Southampton.

Since confirmation of the first outbreak in Staffordshire on December 11, 1972, there have been 65 outbreaks of swine vesicular disease and a total of 28,572 pigs have been slaughtered.

(Adapted from the official Press Notice of February 26, 1973, issued by Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food)

NEW OUTBREAKS OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE IN EUROPE

Outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease were recently reported in Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia.

Five cases were also reported in Yugoslavia, with the Veterinary Corps taking all precautions to contain spread of the disease. The Yugoslav/Romanian border remains closed to regular traffic.

COOPERATIVE FMD AGREEMENTS WITH CENTRAL AMERICA

The United States Department of Agriculture has signed cooperative agreements with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of El Salvador and the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Republic of Honduras, aimed at assisting these Central American countries in establishing programs to prevent, control, and eradicate foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest. This brings the total to six Central American countries that have signed agreements to fight these foreign diseases as authorized under Public Law 92-152. Earlier this year similar agreements were signed with British Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama.

As stated in the November 1972 Foreign Animal Diseases Report, the objectives of the cooperative agreements between the United States Department of Agriculture and the 6 Central American countries are (1) to provide technical advice to help these countries prevent the introduction of FMD and rinderpest; (2) to detect these diseases quickly should they be introduced; and (3) to provide for their eradication should outbreaks occur. Public Law 92-152 also permits revision of the present agreements to include other diseases as deemed necessary.

At present Veterinary Services has 3 veterinarians working as advisers with the Central American countries. One additional veterinarian and a program specialist are preparing for assignment to Nicaragua, and Panama,

INCREASING PROMINENCE OF VENEZUELAN EQUINE ENCEPHALOMYELITIS

Ever since its first appearance in 1935 in Colombia and a few years later in Venezuela, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (VEE) has regularly caused serious and repeated outbreaks. Unlike other group A arboviruses from the Americas such as Eastern equine encephalomyelitis (EEE) or Western equine encephalomyelitis (WEE) which primarily affect horses, VEE often causes many human cases of disease, especially in children and the elderly. Perhaps this virulence is somehow related to other differences such as the dependence of VEE on individual hosts.

In any event there have been several epizootics of VEE which began on or near the Guajira peninsula between Colombia and Venezuela, and several other epizootics which may or may not be connected. The regions affected by epizootics up until 1969 were Venezuela, Trinidad, Guyana, Colombia, Ecuador

and Peru. But in 1969 epidemic VEE somehow jumped north to Central America to erupt on the border between Guatemala and El Salvador. The spread of the epizootic was relatively rapid, despite massive equine vaccination campaigns, throughout Central America and northward into Mexico. Eventually, the epizootic reached the State of Texas in the United States in the summer of 1971. In both Mexico and Texas extensive efforts at control were expended, including spraying for mosquito control in addition to vaccination. These efforts undoubtedly contributed to the ultimate subsidence of VEE in these countries in 1971.

The increasing prominence of VEE has brought about a series of special meetings sponsored by the Pan American Health Organization and the affected countries. Meetings were held in Mexico in May, 1971, Washington, D.C., in September, 1971, Colombia, in November, 1971 and Curacao, in June, 1972. The purpose of the meetings was to bring about a more complete dissemination of scientific knowledge on the disease which normally would have taken years to occur had the traditional channels of information been relied upon. These meetings stimulated the massive control programs, which probably saved thousands of equines and an unknown number of human lives. Likewise, in these meetings the recent and most significant scientific breakthrough in VEE quickly became common knowledge outside of the small group of arbovirus specialists. In 1969, in the American Journal of Epidemiology, Drs. Nathaniel A. Young and Karl M. Johnson, reported the results of their research which explained the previously confusing phenomenon of finding VEE in many areas, while only occasionally appearing as an epizootic. They found that there were many antigenic variants of VEE, only a few of which caused epizootics. This work has led to a better realization of the actual situation and will no doubt aid significantly in future advances toward the ultimate control of this disease.

In January 1972, the Pan American Zoonoses Center began a series of monthly Encephalomyelitis Surveillance reports for the Americas. This service has already proved its value by pointing out to countries when and where VEE is occurring and thus providing a measure of alert previously unavailable. In 1972 VEE was more closely watched than ever before, and outbreaks which have occurred in Ecuador, Central America, and Mexico were quickly reported, facilitating control efforts. Yet the progressive growth of the problem of equine encephalomyelitis indicates that even greater efforts will be called for before the disease is finally controlled.
(Adapted from Zoonoses, Pan American Zoonoses Center Quarterly Bulletin, Vol. 14 No. 2, June 1972)

VEE VACCINATION RECOMMENDED FOR HORSES AND OTHER EQUINE ANIMALS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is urging horse owners to have their horses, mules, and other equine animals vaccinated for Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis (VEE), the deadly horse sleeping sickness, before mosquitoes that could carry the disease emerge in large numbers during the spring and summer.

Officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) noted that a major portion of the Nation's 6.2 million horses remain unprotected. Comparatively few have been vaccinated since 1971, following the outbreak of VEE in Texas.

More than 94 percent of the horses in 19 states--totalling over 2.8 million--were vaccinated at Government expense in 1971. During 1972, only about 200,000 horses were reported vaccinated-- half of these in Texas and New York, where VEE vaccination was required under certain circumstances, by State and Federal regulations.

There were no confirmed cases of VEE in the United States during 1972. APHIS officials believe this was probably due to the large number of horses vaccinated the year before. But VEE did strike in areas of northwestern Mexico during the summer and early fall of 1972, causing concern in adjacent areas of the United States.

Vaccination in 1973 is especially recommended for horses subjected to interstate travel to shows, races, and similar events, or those coming into contact with horses from other areas of the country. Commercially produced VEE vaccine is available through practicing veterinarians and can be administered only by them.

HOG CHOLERA ACTIVITIES

There were three positive cases of hog cholera diagnosed during February, including one in Indiana and two in Virginia. During March, there were two positive cases diagnosed in Puerto Rico. This brings the total number of cases reported during the first quarter of 1973 to 14, compared to 32 during the same period one year ago - a 56 percent reduction in incidence.

The total positive and exposed cases reported thus far in FY 1973 are 161 and 256 respectively. As of March 31, 1973, the last positive case which occurred in the continental United States was reported in Virginia on February 7, 1973.

Quarantines ... On March 22, 1973, the U.S. Department of Agriculture lifted hog cholera quarantines from parts of Bristol and Plymouth Counties in Massachusetts. These are the final areas in the 50 States to be released from quarantines. This marks the second time since July 1969, when Federal area hog cholera quarantines were incorporated into the program, that no quarantines have existed in the continental United States. The other occasion was from Dec. 14 to Dec. 22, 1971.

The entire commonwealth of Puerto Rico remains under quarantine.

Phase Change ... The State of Kentucky regained free status on March 24, 1973.

Hog Cholera Diagnostic School ... The 22nd hog cholera diagnostic school is now in progress at Veterinary Services' Diagnostic Laboratory (VSDL), Ames, Iowa.

Nineteen State and Federal regulatory veterinarians from 13 States are receiving training in the diagnosis of hog cholera. Emphasis is also placed on other diseases resembling hog cholera and the importance of providing a diagnostic service to veterinary practitioners and swine owners in hope that this will help stimulate sick swine reporting.

Hog Cholera Conference ... A Veterinary Services hog cholera conference was held at the Hilton Airport Inn, Nashville, Tennessee, on March 22, 1973. Veterinarians in Charge or their representatives from Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia were in attendance, in addition to regional information office personnel and speakers. Topics of discussion included the national hog cholera situation; comments from regional directors; hog cholera reporting; garbage inspection, cooking facilities and recommendations; marketing movements; marketing survey; and comments from the Information Staff.

HOG CHOLERA SUMMARY July 1, 1972 - March 28, 1973

STATES	LAST POSITIVE CASE SINCE JULY 1, 1972	POS. CASES	*CUMULATIVE* INFECTED COUNTIES	EXPOSED CASES	ANIMALS POS. AND EXP.
Florida	7-30	1	1	-	139
Georgia	11-29	4	3	20	2,114
Indiana	2-1	44	8	8	19,827
Kansas	9-19	2	1	-	177
Kentucky	9-20	12	10	4	5,178
Louisiana	8-5	2	1	4	126
Maryland	12-30	2	2	12	444
Massachusetts	1-1	1	1	-	259
Mississippi	9-30	1	1	8	217
Nebraska	8-3	2	1	1	129
New Jersey	1-2	15	6	8	28,472
North Carolina	1-16	25	11	93	7,385
Ohio	11-9	18	6	9	5,780
Pennsylvania	1-28	4	4	-	294
Puerto Rico	3-23	6	4	10	370
South Carolina	11-2	2	2	8	639
Tennessee	11-1	9	6	20	858
Texas	10-21	5	5	32	1,633
Virginia	2-7	6	2	19	2,033
TOTALS		161	75	256	76,074

WORLD DISEASES REPORT*

Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks
<u>Foot-and-Mouth Disease</u>					
Argentina	Nov.-Dec.		Kenya	Nov.-Dec.	7
	Jan.-1973	393	Lebanon	Nov.-Dec.	28
Austria	Jan.-1973	9	Nigeria	Aug.-Sept.	2
Brazil	May-Aug.	3,677	Rhodesia	Oct.-Nov.	4
Bulgaria	Jan.-1973	2	Romania	November	6
Burundi	November	1	Spain	October	9
Colombia	Aug.-Sept.	86	Syria		
Czechoslovakia	Nov.-Dec.	11	(Rep. Arab)	Nov.	14
Egypt	Jan.-1973	2	Tanzania	Oct.-Nov.	13
France	Jan.-1973	1	Thailand	Sept.-Oct.	19
Hong Kong	Nov.-Dec.	22	Tunisia	Nov.-Dec.	2
Hungary	Oct.-Nov.	18	Turkey		
India	Aug.-Sept.	215	(Anatolia)	December	71
Indonesia	Aug.-Sept.	54	U.S.S.R.	Nov.-Dec.	136
Iran	December		Uruguay	Aug.-Sept.	9
	Jan.-1973	65	Venezuela	November	4
Iraq	December		Western	December	
	Jan.-1973	7	Germany	Jan.-1973	3

The above table reveals that during the reporting period Brazil has had the highest incidence of FMD followed by Argentina, India, and U.S.S.R.

Spain: No new outbreaks of FMD, Type A, occurred in the provinces of Santander, Biscaya, Salamanca, Madrid, Logrono, and Palencia since December 9, 1972. The epizootic caused by type A may be considered as being completely suppressed. Surveillance measures are still in force in Asturias and Saragossa.

Greece: As of December 30, 1972, type O, had been reported in cattle only in Evros area in villages of Peplos (5 outbreaks), Ferrai (24 outbreaks) and Kavissos (2 outbreaks). Sanitary measures were applied and all susceptible animals in the area were vaccinated.

Austria: Two primary outbreaks of Foot-and-Mouth Disease on communes Margarethen and Moos, Bruck an der Leitha area, and Grosshoflein, Eisenstadt Burgenland area; four secondary outbreaks on commune Grosshoflein; three outbreaks, type C, on communes Guenau and Wilhelmsburg, St-Poelten area and commune Hollern, Bruck an der Leitha area.

All in-contact animals have been slaughtered and very strict measures of sanitary police and preventive vaccinations have been prescribed.

WORLD DISEASES REPORT*

Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks
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Rinderpest

Dahomey	Sept.-Oct.	7	Nigeria		
India	Aug.-Sept.	29	(Kaduna)	September	2
Lebanon	December	2	Viet-Nam	December	1
Mali	August	3			

Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia

Angola	November	3	Nigeria		
Dahomey	Oct.-Nov.	2	(Benue)	September	3
Ivory Coast	July	1	Nigeria		
Liberia	November	1	(Kaduna)	July-Sept.	8
Mali	August	5	Senegal	October	1
Niger	November	3	Tschad	September	1

Lumpy Skin Disease

Madagascar	November	2	South Africa (Rep)	Nov.-Dec.	8
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Sheep Pox

India	Aug.-Sept.	21	Jordan	December	
Iran	December			Jan.-1973	2
	Jan.-1973	222	Syria		
Iraq	December		(Arab Rep)	November	20
	Jan.-1973	595	Tunisia	Nov.-Dec.	9
Israel	Sept.-Oct.	4	Turkey	Nov.-Dec.	337
			U.S.S.R.	Nov.-Dec.	4

Dourine

From November through December of 1972, U.S.S.R. reported seven cases, while the South African Republic reported six cases of the disease.

Glanders

Only Turkey reported the disease during November through December of 1972, 16 cases.

African Swine Fever

Angola	November	1	Portugal	Nov.-Dec.	162
Malawi	November	1		Jan.-1973	25
			Spain	December	56
				Jan.-1973	38

WORLD DISEASES REPORT*

Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1972	New Outbreaks
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Teschen Disease

Czechoslovakia	December	1	Madagascar	November	12
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* Adapted from International Office of Epizootics Monthly Circular No. 313 and No. 314, 1973

VESICULAR DISEASES IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE*

Country	Period 1972	FMD			V.S.	
		0	A	C	N.J.	Ind.
Argentina	Nov.-Dec.	198	131	2	-	-
	Jan. 1 - 15, 1973	42	20	-	-	-
Brazil	Nov.-Dec.	48	63	182	-	-
	Jan. 1973	22	31	62	-	-
Chile	December	1	-	-	-	-
	Jan. 1973	1	-	-	-	-
Costa Rica	Jan. 1973	-	-	-	5	-
Ecuador	Jan.-Feb. 1973	10	1	-	-	-
Guatemala	Feb. 1973	-	-	-	2	-
Honduras	Feb. 1973	-	-	-	1	-
Mexico	December	-	-	-	3	-
	Jan. 1973	-	-	-	-	1
Nicaragua	Feb. 1973	-	-	-	2	-
Paraguay	December	1	-	-	-	-
	Jan. 1973	2	-	1	-	-
Peru	Jan.-Feb. 1973	2	2	-	-	-
Venezuela	Jan. 1973	2	-	-	2	-

Peru ... During 1972, 48 foci of FMD in cattle were registered. More than half of them occurred during the first quarter, as a continuation of the epizootic situation present in the north and in the central coast during the last months of 1971. Viruses 0, A₂₄, A₂₇ and C₃ were identified in 11, 14, 11 and 1 foci, respectively.

Four foci of FMD in pigs were registered and subtypes 0, A₂₄, and A₂₇ were identified.

* Adapted from Pan-American Foot-and-Mouth Disease Center, Epidemiological Reports, Vol. 5, Nos. 2-4, January 16-31, February 1-15 and 16-28, 1973.

STUDIES INDICATE CANADIAN OUTBREAK OF EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE
WAS NOT OF U.S. ORIGIN

In connection with the exotic Newcastle disease outbreak in Canada a reference was made in the February 1973 issue of the FAD Report to a shipment of chickens from Puyallup Washington Hatchery to Calgary, Alberta.

Thorough studies of the Puyallup source flocks did not show any evidence of exotic Newcastle disease in the State of Washington.